The humanitarian situation in Burundi remains alarming. Recurring climate-change natural disasters lead to massive internal displacements and impact the livelihood of the rural population, highly dependent on subsistence farming for their food security. The inflationary effect of the Ukrainian crisis compounded with the trade and market supply disruptions imposed by the COVID-19 restrictions have exacerbated the national economic crisis and food insecurity in the country. Compared to July 2021, the price of staple food on local markets has increased by 53 percent.

According to the August 2022 IPC survey, 12 percent of the population (1,404 million) is facing acute food insecurity and require immediate assistance. The prevalence of chronic malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months is rated at 55.8 percent, an increase of 3 percent since 2020.

Burundi hosts a high number of refugees fleeing violence from the Democratic Republic of Congo (55,000 in 5 camps). Since 2017, more than 200,000 Burundians have repatriated, adding strain on resource-scarce vulnerable host communities.

WFP has been present in Burundi since 1968.

### In Numbers
- **842 mt** of food assistance distributed
- **USD 867,602** cash transferred under assistance to refugees, returnees, nutrition and resilience-building and forecast-based financing activities
- **USD 10.19 m** six months net funding requirements (November 2022 - April 2023)
- **323,023 people** assisted in October 2022

### Operational Updates
- **Assistance to refugees:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **55,577 refugees** (24,454 males, 31,123 females, 15,006 children aged 0-59 months and 2,223 people with over 60 years of age) with the distribution of **503 mt of in-kind food** and USD **417,145 in cash-based transfers** (CBT).

- **Assistance to returnees:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **3,638 Burundian returnees** (1,783 males or 49 percent and 1,855 females or 51 percent), distributing a combination of in-kind food and CBT. The assistance consisted of hot meals provided at transit centres, and a three-month in-kind food or CBT return package depending on availability. Out of the 3,638 returnees assisted, 1,813 received a return assistance package in CBT for a total of USD **53,188**, and the remaining (1,825) received in-kind food. In total, **28 mt** of in-kind food were distributed to these returnees in October.

- **Under the KfW-funded nutrition and resilience programme,** WFP provided **USD 108,304** in CBT to 2,500 people participating in resilience-building activities (12,500 beneficiaries) in Kirundo and Karusi provinces. The project is implemented in 4 provinces (Kirundo, Karusi, Ruyigi and Karusi).

- **Forecast-based financing:** In October, as part of its Forecast-based Financing approach, WFP and the Burundi Red Cross (BRC) distributed multipurpose cash amounting to USD **288,965** to 16,315 at-risk people in the vulnerable areas of Rumonge and Rutana provinces. The areas and communities were jointly identified with the International Office for Migration (IOM), who is leading a national disaster risk reduction project in an effort to seek complementarity with longer term preparedness initiatives. The amount distributed is to cover both immediate food needs as well as preparedness/prevention needs at community and household level.

- **School Feeding Programme:** The programme provided **210,590 school children** with daily school meals prepared with **206 mt** of food and 176 mt of UHT milk. Only 28 percent of school children were assisted because WFP faced procurement constraints linked to the quality of locally purchased cereals.

### Population and Development Index
- **Population:** 11.7 million
- **2020 Human Development Index:** 185 out of 189
- **72 percent** of Burundians live under the poverty line
- **Chronic malnutrition:** 55.8 % of children between 6-59 months

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**Note:** The information provided is a summary of the document and may not capture all details or context. For a comprehensive understanding, please refer to the original document.
**WFP Burundi Country Brief**

**WFP Strategy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>257.96m</td>
<td>4.62 m</td>
<td>10.19 m</td>
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</table>

**Strategic Result 1: Access to food**

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Shock-affected populations in targeted areas, Burundi returnees, refugees in camps, can meet their basic food needs all year round.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

**Activities:**
- Provide unconditional food and/or cash-based assistance to refugees in camps and transit centers;
- Provide unconditional and/or conditional food and/or cash-based assistance to severely food insecure households including IDPs and Burundi returnees;
- Provide on-demand supply chain, social protection, school feeding, nutrition, and feedback and complaints assistance or for access facilitation to children aged 6-59 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and other vulnerable groups including people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition**

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Children aged 6-59 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, PLHIV and TB clients in the targeted provinces have improved nutritional status throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**
- Provide an integrated nutrition-sensitive and specific package to children aged 6-59 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and other vulnerable groups including people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Strategic Result 4: Sustainable Food Systems**

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable populations including school-aged children and food value chain actors in Burundi have access to and contribute to healthier, nutritious, resilient, sustainable and gender-transformative food systems by 2024

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**
- Provide nutritious home-grown school meals to pre-primary and primary school-aged children;
- Provide improved access to technologies and capacity development to smallholder farmers and food value chain actors;
- Provide nutrition-sensitive and gender-transformative livelihood support to food-insecure and at risk of food insecurity households.

**Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening**

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Government and national actors in Burundi have strengthened capacities, systems and services by 2024

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**
- Provide advisory and technical services, skills and assets to Government, Private Sector, Burundi Red Cross and NGOs for the design and implementation of effective and gender-responsive food and nutrition assistance including supply chain, social protection, school feeding, nutrition, sustainable food systems and early warning and emergency preparedness.

**Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership**

**Strategic Outcome 5:** The Government of Burundi, humanitarian and development partners can reach vulnerable people and respond to the needs and to emergencies throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

**Activities:**
- Provide on-demand supply chain and emergency telecommunications and shared IT services to Government, development and humanitarian partners.

**Monitoring**

- **A rapid multi-sectoral assessment** conducted by OCHA and humanitarian partners took place between 21 to 24 October 2022 in Kirundo, Muyinga and Ngozi provinces following a double shock of general rain deficit and localized torrential rainfall. The assessment found that 250,000 people (50,000 households) in Vumbi, Bugabira, Busoni, Kirundo, Giteranyi and Tangara communes urgently need humanitarian assistance. There is high risk of severe food security and nutrition deterioration as well as the adoption of critical coping strategies (displacements, sale of productive and non-productive goods, theft, withdrawal of children from school, begging, etc.) if no urgent assistance is provided.

- **Community Feedback Mechanism report:** In October 2022, WFP and its partners received 441 feedback and complaints messages from beneficiaries through the Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM). Out of these, 384 cases (87 percent) were resolved, and 57 are currently being addressed. The main complaints included requests for assistance in accessing food assistance or for access facilitation (44 percent), and negative feedback (31 percent) including registration issues, beneficiaries not finding their names on the lists, suspicions of fraud, receipt of smaller quantities of food commodities.

**Challenges**

- **Pipeline break for assistance to returnees, IDPs and other severely food-insecure populations:** Food assistance to Burundian returnees, IDPs and other vulnerable food-insecure populations, will face a shortage of pulses from December 2022 onwards and a shortfall of cereals from March 2023 if no funding is immediately made available. This shortage will particularly affect the returnees who rely on food assistance from WFP for the first three months of reintegration.

**Donors (in alphabetical order):** Burundi, Canada, China, European Union, FEED, France, Germany, Global Partnership for Education, Hilton Foundation, Japan, Kerry Group, Mastercard Europe, Monaco, Netherlands, Rockefeller Foundation, Russia, Switzerland, United States of America, World Bank.

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**Photo:** Cash distribution to returnees by WFP at Gihanga transit center in west Burundi. © WFP/ Bruno Gumyubumwe

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